

Organ Mountains National Monument Establishment Act—Summary

Sec. 1.

Short Title.

Sec. 2.

Definitions.

Sec. 3.

Declares that nothing in the bill can be construed as a reservation by the US government of water rights in the national monument, nor does the government have the right to withdraw existing water rights.

Sec. 4.

Establishes a national monument consisting of 54,800 acres of BLM owned land, including the Organ Mountains, Organ Needles and Pena Blanca WSAs.

Sec. 5.

Purposes of the national monument—to protect and conserve various resources within the national monument for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Sec. 6.

Management of national monument—in accordance with the Act, FLPMA and all other applicable laws. The only uses permitted must further the purposes in Sec. 5.

- Motorized vehicle use is only permitted on roads designated for use in the management plan.
- Nothing will hinder the use of motorized vehicles for standard ranching operations, construction, maintenance or operation of flood control/water conservation systems.
- No new roads will be constructed in national monument unless the DOI secretary signs off for public safety or resource protection.
- The secretary must issue grazing leases and permits in accordance with the standard laws and executive orders as in other land under the BLM.
- Nothing precludes the secretary from authorizing, renewing or upgrading utility right-of-ways in the national monument in accordance with NEPA, this Act and any other terms and conditions placed by the Secretary.

Sec. 7.

Within 3 years, the Secretary shall work in consultation with state/tribal/local governments, the public and interested federal agencies to develop a management plan.

Sec. 8.

Secretary shall make a publicly available map and legal description of the national monument, both of which will be available to the public in the offices of the BLM and the Dona Ana Co. Clerk.

- Nothing affects the jurisdiction of the state with respect to fish and wildlife on public lands.
- No buffer zones around national monument, and nothing in the law affects the activity on private/state land within the national monument boundary.
- All federal land within monument is withdrawn from mining, mineral leases and disposal.

Sec. 9.

Hunting and trapping allowed in the monument.

- Can only regulate no hunting for areas deemed necessary for public safety, administration, or compliance with applicable laws.
- Have to get agreement to do this from appropriate State agency before closing a portion of the monument to hunting or trapping

Sec. 10.

Organ Mountains, Pena Blanca, Organ Needles released from Wilderness Study Areas.

Sec. 11.

Federal, State, or local law enforcement personnel have unfettered access to the entire monument, including the use of motorized vehicles and specialized equipment

Sec. 12.

National monument is administered as a component of the National Landscape Conservation System.